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FOX FARMERS TO BE AIDED BY FARM CREDIT DECISION

Fox farmers facing difficulties in carrying their animals through winter and in financing the production of next year's crop of pelts will find encouragement in a recent decision of the Farm Credit Administration, says the Bureau of Biological Survey, U.S. Department of Agriculture. The Administration, says the Bureau, has announced that silver foxes are eligible security for loans from Regional Agricultural Credit Corporations and has notified the regional corporations to proceed on this basis.

Considering silver-fox raising a business that calls for long experience and special equipment, the Farm Credit Administration has informed the Bureau that it plans to make loans on silver foxes as primary security only to those operators who have specialized in fox farming, have proper equipment, and have shown expert knowledge in the general care and feeding of the animals. Each application, it is added, will be considered on its own merits, and in cases where fox farming is incidental to general farming or other business operations silver foxes may be considered as additional security, within reasonable limits.

The recognition of these pelts as eligible security, says the Bureau, was in part based on data prepared by the Biological Survey in cooperation with silver-fox breeders and associations representing the industry. The data showed the amount of capital invested in silver-fox raising in the United States, the size of the industry, and costs of production. Production-information was based on experiments at the Fur-Animal Experiment Station, Saratoga Springs, N.Y.

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